

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-20. (canceled)

21. (original) A shipping/storage box for use in an apparatus for dispensing flat items comprising:

a box sized to hold a plurality of flat items stacked in a column, said box having a front wall, rear wall, a pair of opposed side walls, a bottom wall and a movable top wall;

said front wall being adapted to retain a display depicting the flat items held in the box;

said rear wall having an indicator means for indicating at least one of a number of the flat items in said box and a number of the flat items dispensed from said box;

said side walls having a retaining means for securing the column of the flat items from movement in the box;

and said bottom wall having a cutout and at least one aperture formed therein.

22. (currently amended) The shipping/storage box according to claim 21 wherein said rear wall has a vertically extending opening formed therein adjacent said indicator means.

23. (currently amended) The shipping storage box according to claim 21 wherein said retaining means ~~is one of~~ comprises a plurality of tabs formed in said side walls, each said tab being adapted to be pushed inwardly, ~~and a plurality of flexible teeth extending inwardly from said side walls.~~

24. (new) The shipping storage box according to claim 21 wherein said retaining means comprises a plurality of flexible teeth extending inwardly from said side walls.